

*Comments to the*  
**Joint Committee Workshop on Senate  
Bill 1059 Implementation**

Docket No. 06-IEP-1F  
2007 IEPR – Transmission  
*by the*

**U. S. Forest Service  
Pacific Southwest Region**

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# Introduction

- The Pacific Southwest Region manages 20 million acres of National Forest System (NFS) lands in California
- Land and Resource Management Plans for our 18 National Forests designate 22 utility corridors
- Additional corridors may be added under the EPAct-05 Section 368 “West-wide Energy Corridor” project



# Implementing SB 1059

- Forest Service fully supports the findings and declarations in Section 1 of SB 1059
- FS staff will participate in the corridor planning process to ensure coordination with National Forest Land and Resource Management Plans



# Potential Impediments

- Multiple interests and objectives between jurisdictions at the federal, state, and local level
- Competing interests between utilities
- Limited corridor opportunities on National Forest System Lands
- Policy requirements to justify need for NFS lands



# Potential Solutions

- Focus on a collaborative approach
  - Provide for early collaboration between communities, public and private utilities, tribes, state and federal agencies, and NGO's
- Provide opportunity for integrated transmission planning at a regional scale
  - Build the statewide system from components designed at a multi-county level
  - Southern California is our priority area for a regional scale collaborative approach



# Potential Solutions (continued)

- Provide an opportunity for a longer planning window (15 to 20 years) than typical siting decisions allow
- Address key issues such as compatible land uses, visual quality, and other issues at the corridor level to facilitate future siting decisions

